



THE HON. CHRISTIAN PORTER MP
Attorney-General

Media Release

Friday, 5th April 2019

APPOINTMENTS TO THE FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Mr Stewart Anderson QC and Ms Wendy Abraham QC have been appointed as judges of the Federal Court of Australia.

The appointments of Mr Anderson and Ms Abraham will provide the Federal Court with additional resources to manage the expected increase in caseload as a result of intensified enforcement action by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, and the proposed expansion of the Federal Court's criminal jurisdiction to include corporate crime.

Mr Anderson will commence in the Melbourne registry on 6 May 2019. He graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Economics in 1981, a Bachelor of Laws in 1983 and a Diploma of Commercial Law in 1987. Mr Anderson began his career as a commercial litigation solicitor before being called to the Bar in 1987. At the Bar, Mr Anderson has specialised in commercial law, particularly corporations law, banking and finance, superannuation, property, contracts, and equity and trusts. Mr Anderson was appointed silk in 2005 and has extensive experience in complex commercial litigation, including in a number of class actions.

Ms Abraham will commence in the Sydney registry on 7 May 2019. She graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Adelaide in 1982 and from 1983 appeared as counsel on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions in South Australia. Ms Abraham was appointed silk in 1998 and has extensive experience as a barrister in criminal law. From 2005 to 2009, Ms Abraham was retained by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions on a full-time basis as national appellate counsel. Since 2009 she has continued to be briefed by the Commonwealth Director, in addition to a broader practice which has included advising and appearing in criminal appellate matters.

On behalf of the Government, I congratulate Mr Anderson and Ms Abraham on their appointments and thank them for their willingness to serve the people of Australia as judges of the Federal Court of Australia.